implemented in 22 States/Union Territories, detailed as under :

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Bihar
3. Goa
4. Delhi
5. Gujarat
6. Haryana
7. Himachal Pradesh
8. Madhya Pradesh
9. Maharashtra
10. Meghalaya
11. Mizoram
12. Orissa
13. Nagaland
14. Pondicherry
15. Punjab
16. Rajasthan
17. Tamil Nadu
18. Tripura
19. Uttar Pradesh
20. West Bengal
21. Chandigarh
22. Dadra and Nagar Haveli

Delay of Defence Projects

*169. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
LT. GEN. PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as reported in the 'Pioneer' of July 3, 1997 some of the prestigious defence projects are stymied by inordinate delays ranging from 7 years to 27 years, resulting in a cost escalation of more than Rs. 5,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details of these projects, the extent of delay suffered by each and the cost escalation suffered in respect of each project;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the corrective measures taken to check inordinate delay in defence projects?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) Defence projects like, Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun, Light Combat Aircraft, 5.56 mm Indian Small Arms System (INSAS), Pilotless Target Aircraft are high technology development projects. No project, however, has been stymied due to the delays. After successful completion of indigenous development, MBT Arjun, 5.56 mm Indian Small Arms System (INSAS) and Pilotless target aircraft (PTA) have already entered production phase. These high performance critical defence systems will be available for the Armed Forces during Ninth Plan. The Light Combat Aircraft and Combat Aircraft and Advance Light Helicopter projects are progressing satisfactorily. Project 'Sea Bird' is a construction project and is scheduled to be completed in 2005 AD. It will not be in public interest to divulge more information on individual projects.

(d) The following measures have been taken to check inordinate delay in Defence projects;

(i) Introduction of concurrent enginnering practice.

(ii) Development of technologies/competencies before taking up project for system development.

(iii) Multi-tier project review system.

(iv) Assured funding of higher priority projects.

(v) Accelerated indigenous development of critical technologies/materials/components/sub-systems which have been denied or are likely to be denied under various export control regimes of developed nations.

New Tourism Policy

*170. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether sufficient allocation has not been made for tourism sector during the current plan period as compared to the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a meeting of State Tourism Ministers was held recently in Delhi to discuss the new National Tourism Policy;

(d) if so, the details of the points discussed and the outcome thereof;

(e) the time by which the new tourism policy is likely to be implemented;

(f) whether views of State Government's Committees and experts in this regard have also been considered;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether the Government also propose to include tourism in the Concurrent List of the Constitution;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?